



Service Academy Nomination

APPLICATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a nomination?

Members of Congress may nominate applicants who meet the eligibility requirements established by law. A candidate may seek a nomination from the following:

- A member of the U.S. House of Representatives who represents the congressional district in which the candidate resides
- Both U.S. Senators from his or her state
- Apply directly to the Vice-President of the United States

What are the basic eligibility requirements?

Each applicant for a nomination must meet the following eligibility requirements as of July 1st of the year of admission to an academy:

- Age: Be at least 17 years old, but not have passed the 23rd birthday
- Citizenship: Must be a U.S. citizen
- Marital Status: Must be unmarried, not pregnant, and without legal obligation to support children or other dependents
- Residence: Must reside within the boundaries of the 7th Congressional District of Virginia.
- Skill / Fitness: Must meet the medical, physical, and academic requirements of the Academy

When do I apply for a nomination?

The nomination application period opens May 1st of each year for those candidates who are high school juniors and will be seniors the following school year, or who have already graduated.

What is the deadline for completing a nomination file?

The deadline for submitting a nomination packet to the District Office is **5:00pm, October 1, 2021.**

ALL TRANSCRIPTS AND SAT/ACT SCORES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THIS DATE AS WELL

What must be included in my nomination file?

A complete nomination file consists of the following items:

- Current photo
- High school transcript
- American College Testing Program (ACT) results and/or College Board Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) results
- An essay stating why you want to attend a service academy (500 words or less)
- Completed VA-07 Academy Nomination Packet
- Minimum of two letters of recommendation

What are your office's SAT and ACT Submission Codes?

Our office's SAT Submission Code is 5089, and our ACT Submission Code is 7730.

How do I submit my application?

Mail or hand deliver all application materials to the following address by **5:00pm, October 1, 2021**.

Representative Abigail Spanberger
ATTN: Service Academy Nominations
4201 Dominion Blvd., Suite 110
Glen Allen, VA 23060

What happens after I have completed my nomination file?

Applicants who submit a completed nomination file will be scheduled for an interview in November or early December.

What criteria is used in selecting candidates?

Nominations are based on a "whole person" evaluation. Factors such as academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, leadership skills, physical aptitude, character and motivation are taken into consideration and compared with other applicants.

How many academies are there?

There are five service academies.

- **U.S. Military Academy** at West Point, New York
- **U.S. Naval Academy** at Annapolis, Maryland
- **U.S. Air Force Academy** at Colorado Springs
- **U.S. Merchant Marine Academy** at Kings Point, New York
- **U.S. Coast Guard Academy** at New London, Connecticut

Are the requirements the same for all of the service academies?

No. Although many of the qualifications are similar, each academy operates under its own admissions guidelines. Visit the academy of your choice via the websites noted for each academy's particular admissions qualifications. It is not necessary to seek a nomination to the Coast Guard Academy, as the U.S.C.G.A. accepts candidates based on their own testing criteria

Who should I ask to write a letter of recommendation on my behalf?

Some of the people applicants typically seek recommendations from include:

- Teachers
- Counselors
- Employers
- Coaches
- Clergy
- Scout Leaders

Will I automatically be selected by the academy after I receive a nomination?

No. You will be placed among a select group of nominees, and the academy of your choice will make the final decision. If selected, you will receive an offer of admission (an appointment) directly from the academy.

What if I choose more than one academy? Will I be limited to a single nomination?

VA-07 is a highly competitive district with a high number of very qualified applicants. You may be interviewed and considered for multiple service academies but can only receive a nomination to ONE service academy.

When will I know if I have been offered an appointment by an academy?

Academies will begin to notify candidates of their admission status in February. All offers of appointment are generally sent out by May.